

Though non-scientific, our survey results are very clear. The people of the 31st District respect constitutional rights, believe in accessible and open government, wish to provide stiffer penalties for violent criminals and do **not** want to increase taxes.

I had fun writing this survey and reading the comments that came with them.

Thank you to all who participated.



Introduction

Percentages are based on the total number of answers counted for that question.

Results are from 1121 surveys returned as of February 1, 2010 out of 26,750 mailed (4.2% returned).

1. Balancing the Budget

The Legislature should address the 2.6 billion deficit by:

Balancing the Budget	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Raising Taxes	46	4.12%	23	3.33%
Prioritizing spending and reducing program size	940	84.23%	590	85.51%
Cutting programs, prioritizing spending and raising taxes	130	11.65%	77	11.16%
Totals:	1116	100.00%	690	100.00%

2. Income Tax

With respect to the issue of an income tax, the following most closely reflects my position:

Income Tax	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
I generally favor the concept of a state income tax.	53	4.86%	29	4.25%
I could support new state personal and business income taxes if they were part of a comprehensive tax reform package that reduced other taxes .	197	18.07%	93	13.64%
I am flatly opposed to a state income or local income tax under all or virtually all circumstances.	840	77.06%	560	82.11%
Totals:	1090	100.00%	682	100.00%

3. Public Safety

- A. In regard to persons convicted of violent felonies such as murder, robbery, rape, assault, kidnapping and arson, do you believe penalties are tough enough under current law?

Penalties Tough Enough	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	139	12.97%	60	9.04%
No	933	87.03%	604	90.96%
Totals:	1072	100.00%	664	100.00%

- B. The following opinion reflects my views on sex offender housing:

Sex Offender Housing	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Sex offenders should be locked away for life.	412	37.97%	268	40.12%
Sex offenders should be monitored 24/7 after they have served their sentences and should live away from schools and neighborhoods.	574	52.90%	342	51.20%
Sex offenders' civil rights are violated if they are not allowed to go free after they have served their sentences.	99	9.12%	58	8.68%
Totals:	1085	100.00%	668	100.00%

4. Gun Control

- A. The now expired federal ban on certain pistols and rifles will be proposed for our state in 2010. I believe the following:

Firearms Possession	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Citizens have a constitutional right to keep and bear arms, and I oppose any bans for law abiding citizens.	722	64.18%	457	66.52%
Do you think teachers or staff who have legally obtained a concealed weapons permit should be prohibited from bringing a firearm on campus?	316	28.09%	181	26.35%
Possession and ownership of handguns should be outlawed, and ownership and possession of other firearms should be regulated.	70	6.22%	39	5.68%
Possession and ownership of all firearms should be outlawed.	17	1.51%	10	1.46%
Totals:	1125	100.00%	687	100.00%

B. Do you think individuals who are at least 21 years of age and have a concealed weapons permit, should be prohibited from bringing their firearm on campus?

Firearms on Campus	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	499	46.38%	315	46.53%
No	577	53.62%	362	53.47%
Totals:	1076	100.00%	677	100.00%

5. Property Rights

Our state constitution directs that a property owner be compensated for a government taking or damages to private real property. Should government be required to pay whenever zoning changes or imposing regulatory restrictions reduces the owner's property value?

Property Rights	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	1000	92.25%	623	93.12%
No	84	7.75%	46	6.88%
Totals:	1084	100.00%	669	100.00%

6. Government Size

Regarding the size of government, government spending, and taxation generally, the following best reflects my position:

Government Size	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
State government is too big and wasteful. It should be reduced in size, accompanied by a reduction in taxes and a reduction in services.	900	83.33%	576	84.71%
The present size, scope and involvement of state government is just about right.	161	14.91%	93	13.68%
State government should be increased in size, accompanied by an increase in taxes, an increase in spending and an increase in services.	19	1.76%	11	1.62%
Totals:	1042	100.00%	680	100.00%

7. Child Abuse and Parents Rights

With respect to the issue of child abuse and Child Protective Services, the following best reflects my position:

Child Abuse and Parents Rights	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Government should aggressively seek to halt child abuse, even if it means suspending the rights of some innocent parents to care for their children.	70	6.29%	32	4.75%
Government should seek a balance between preventing child abuse and respecting parental rights.	645	58.00%	394	58.54%
Government has too much control over parental rights and should be more cautious and accountable in its efforts to prevent child abuse.	397	35.70%	247	36.70%
Totals:	1112	100.00%	673	100.00%

8. Open Government

Do you trust government to make all public information accessible under current law?

Open Government	Voter 1		Voter 2	
	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	125	11.73%	73	10.94%
No	941	88.27%	594	89.06%
Totals:	1066	100.00%	667	100.00%